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COUNTY BOROUGH OF GREAT YARMOUTH

URBAN AND PORT SANITARY
AUTHORITY.



THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

For 1923.

GREAT YARMOUTH :

Printed by JOHN BUCKLE (J. A. Lane & A. O. J. Buckle), Theatre Plain.

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TOWN HALL,

GREAT YARMOUTH,

1924.

*To the Town Council of the County Borough of Great Yarmouth,
acting as the Urban and Port Sanitary Authorities.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Fourteenth Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health, etc., on the vital statistics and sanitary administration of the Borough and Port of Great Yarmouth.

As that for the previous year, this Report varies somewhat from the form in which I have in previous years presented it to you. This is due to the fact that the Ministry of Health have given instructions that in future a "Survey Report" of a special character is to be issued at intervals of not more than five years, whilst in other years an "Ordinary Report" only will be required. This Report is an "Ordinary" one, and is drawn up in accordance with and in the order laid down by the Ministry.

For reasons given in my 1921 Report, I am unable to accept the Registrar General's estimate of population. I have, therefore, throughout this Report, when giving a rate based on population, used both the Registrar General's figure and my own side by side.

The comparative vital statistics for the year 1923 are shown in the following Table.

			<i>England and Wales.</i>	<i>London.</i>	<i>105 Great Towns.</i>	<i>155 Smaller Towns.</i>
	<i>Great Yarmouth.</i>					
	<i>Reg. Gen's. figures.</i>	<i>M.O.H.'s. figures.</i>				
<i>Death Rate</i>	11.25	10.61	11.6	11.2	11.6	10.6
<i>*Infantile death-rate</i>	59		69	60	72	69
<i>Birth Rate</i>	18.8	17.8	19.7	20.2	20.4	19.8

** Per 1,000 infant births.*

Special attention is deserved by the figures for Old Age Deaths (Table III.) Forty-eight per cent. of the deaths of Yarmouth residents occurred over the age of 65 years, and twenty-eight per cent. over the age of 75 years.

The Total Rainfall (average 25.32 inches) was 24.36.

The Mean Temperature (average 48.8) was 48.4.

The Hours of Bright Sunshine recorded (daily mean) was 4.53.

No School Departments were closed by the Local Sanitary Authority during the year, but 127 patients and 157 contacts were temporarily excluded from school owing to infectious disease.

An Index to this Report will be found at the end of the volume.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. N. STEVENS,

Medical Officer of Health.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) ...	3,598
Population at Census on June 19th, 1921 ...	60,710
,, estimated by the Registrar General for the middle of 1923 ...	57,240
,, estimated by Medical Officer of Health ...	60,694
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1921) ...	14,059
Number of families or separate occupiers ...	14,340
Rateable value ...	£277,016
Product of a Penny General District Rate (7/4 in the £)	£990
Product of a Penny in all other Rates (7/6 in the £) ...	£1,039
Total Revenue ...	£352,042
Net Indebtedness ...	£393,622

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS, Etc.

Births (legitimate), males 537, females 485	Total 1,022
Births (illegitimate), males 25, females 34	Total 59
Birth Rate (on Registrar General's population figure) ...	18.8
Ditto (on M.O.H's. figure) ...	17.8
Deaths (net, after allowing for deaths of non-residents and deaths of residents occurring outside the district)	741
Death Rate (on Registrar General's population figure)	12.94
Ditto (on M.O.H's. figure) ...	12.20
The same Death Rates as corrected by the Registrar General's factor of correction ...	11.25 & 10.61
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of child- birth—from Sepsis ...	1
from other causes ...	2

Infantile Death Rate per thousand births:—

Legitimate	56,	Illegitimate	101	...	...	Total	59
Deaths from Measles	...	...	...	...	...		5
„ „ Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...		1
„ „ Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...		4
„ „ Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...		2
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...		14

The following table shows how the principal causes of death compare with previous years.

NUMBER OF DEATHS.				1923.	Decennial Average.
Enteric	...	...	...	1	2.1
Measles	...	...	...	5	9.1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1	0.6
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	4	11.0
Diphtheria	...	...	...	2	10.5
Tuberculous Disease	...	...	...	80	86.2
Cancer	...	...	...	86	69.6
Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	93	116.1
Diarrhoeal Diseases	...	...	...	16	21.8
Wasting Diseases of Infants	...	...	...	29	40.1
Violence	...	...	...	23	26.0
Influenza	...	...	...	4	38.4

Ages at Death. Of the total number of deaths 12.8 per cent. occurred in infancy (0.5), 2.9 per cent. during school age (5—15), 35.4 per cent. during working life (15—65), and the remaining 48.7 per cent. in old age (over 65), while 28.7 occurred over the age of 75 years.

Infant Mortality. Sixty-five children died before reaching the age of 12 months, giving an infantile death-rate of 59 per 1,000 births registered, being 33.4 below the decennial average. Table IV. sets out the Infant Deaths from stated causes. The Infant Mortality rate is the lowest on record.

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1923.

Causes of Death.	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS," WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHIN THE DISTRICT										TOTAL DEATHS WHETHER OF "RESIDENTS" OR "NON- RESIDENTS" IN INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.
	All ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and under 75 years.	Over 75 years.	
		0	1	2	5	15	25	45	65	75	All ages
All Causes	741	69	13	18	22	32	80	151	148	213	224
Certified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 Enteric Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
2 Small Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Measles ...	5	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 Scarlet Fever ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5 Whooping cough...	4	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
6 Diphtheria ...	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
7 Influenza ...	4	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	—
8 Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9 Meningococcal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	65	—	—	1	3	18	32	9	2	—	12
11 Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	15	1	2	3	2	3	2	2	—	—	2
12 Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	86	—	—	—	1	—	7	42	21	15	25
13 Rheumatic Fever...	8	—	—	1	4	1	1	1	—	—	4
14 Diabetes ...	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	5	2	6
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ...	62	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	24	31	21
16 Heart Disease ...	78	—	—	—	1	1	4	27	22	23	5
17 Arterio-Sclerosis ...	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	10	20	4
18 Bronchitis ...	50	7	1	—	—	—	1	6	7	28	4
19 Pneumonia (all forms) ...	31	4	3	1	3	3	5	6	4	1	9
20 Other Respiratory Diseases ...	12	—	1	—	1	1	—	2	4	3	5
21 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	4
22 Diarrhœa, etc. ...	16	13	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3
23 Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	5	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	8
24 Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
25 Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	20	—	—	—	—	1	—	11	4	4	4
26 Puerperal Sepsis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
27 Other accidents and diseases of Preg- nancy & Parturition	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
28 Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	29	28	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
29 Suicide ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	—	—
30 Other deaths from violence ...	17	1	1	1	2	1	4	2	—	5	10
31 Other defined diseases ...	172	9	—	2	4	2	12	22	41	80	87
32 Causes ill-defined or unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	741	64	13	18	22	32	80	151	148	213	224

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1923. Nett Deaths from stated causes at Various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4-Wks.—3 Mths.	3-Mths.—6 Mths.	6 Mths.—9 Mths.	9 Mth. 12 Mths.	Total Death under One Year.
All Causes	Certified	...	16	3	7	3	29	17	6	7	5	64
	Uncertified	..										
(Small Pox	...	...								
Chicken Pox	...	...								
{ Measles	...	...								
Scarlet Fever	...	...								
{ Whooping Cough	...	...								1		1
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...								
Erysipelas	...	...								
{ Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...								
Abdominal Tuberculous	...	...						1				1
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...								
Meningitis <i>not Tuberculous</i>)	...	...									1	1
Convulsions	...	...								
Laryngitis	...	...								
Bronchitis	...	...						3	3	1		7
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...							1	3		4
{ Diarrhoea	...	...		2	1	1	4	5	2			13
{ Enteritis	...	...								
Gastritis	...	...			1		1					1
Syphilis	...	...	1				1					1
Rickets	...	...									1	1
Suffocation, overlying	...	...								
Injury at birth	...	...	1				1					1
Atelectasis	...	...								
{ Congenital Malformations	...	...	2				2	1				3
Premature Birth	...	...	8		4	1	13	1				14
{ Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	3	1	1	1	6	5				11
Influenza	...	...								
Other Causes	...	...	1				1	1		2	1	5
			16	3	7	3	29	17	6	6	5	64

Nett Births in the Year.

Nett Deaths in the year of {

Legitimate, 1022.
Illegitimate, 59.

Legitimate infants, 58.
Illegitimate Infants, 6.

THE PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1923.

(As Tabulated in Table III.)

THE ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

A.—ZYMOTIC DISEASES NOT NOTIFIABLE DURING LIFE.

	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	Decennial Average
Measles	5	3	0	6	5	40	1	17	3	8	8	9.1
Whooping Cough	4	24	5	4	12	9	7	21	6	17	5	11.0
Diarrhœa, under 2 years of age	14	6	21	4	17	9	10	11	15	32	34	15.9

B.—ZYMOTIC DISEASES—(All Cases Notified).

Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	0.6
Diphtheria	2	3	5	4	6	4	10	16	16	30	11	10.5
Enteric Fever	1	2	1	1	1	0	3	3	3	4	3	2.1
Tuberculosis	80	72	84	76	79	103	77	96	98	100	79	86.2

Table IV. on page 8 gives the statistics as to infant mortality in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health. It will be seen that more than 45 per cent. of the total infant deaths occurred during the first month of life. The principal causes of infant deaths stated as percentages of the total are:—

Premature Birth ...	...	...	21.8
Other Wasting Diseases	...	...	21.8
Diarrhœal Diseases	...	...	20.3
Respiratory Diseases	...	...	17.1
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	1.5
Meningitis	...	...	1.5
Syphilis	...	...	1.5
Tuberculous Disease	...	...	1.5
Rickets	...	...	1.5
Injury at Birth	...	...	1.5
Measles	...	...	0.0

3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

TABLE II.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1923.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases notified.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality.					Total Cases Removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages -- Years.						Northern District	Southern District	Gorleston and Southtown	Runham Vauxhall	Port.	
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65							65 and upwards
Pneumonia	10	—	—	5	3	1	—	1	1	3	—	—	—
Diphtheria	30	—	7	15	6	1	1	—	16	4	—	—	25
Membranous Group	12	—	1	1	4	2	2	2	3	6	—	—	—
Erysipelas	202	—	28	145	19	10	—	—	66	103	4	—	178
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	2*	—	—	2
*Enteric Fever	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	2	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	217	9	37	167	35	17	3	91	44	132	4	0	203

* Including 2 important cases.

Estcourt Road Isolation Hospital:—57 beds for Enteric, Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.
Gorleston Isolation Hospital:—12 beds for Small Pox, Cholera, Yellow Fever and Plague.
Hospital Authority:—Great Yarmouth Corporation.

NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

		Number.	Admissions to Hospital or Sanitorium.	Deaths.
Pulmonary	Males	31	30	34
	Females	46	25	31
	Total	77	55	65
Non-Pulmonary	Males	5	3	7
	Females	6	4	8
	Total	11	7	15

ANALYSIS OF TUBERCULOUS CASES.

Age-periods.	All new cases, including those not notified.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1	2	0	3	3	1	0	3	2
5	3	4	1	0	0	1	1	0
10	2	3	2	4	1	1	0	1
15	6	8	1	0	6	7	0	0
20	8	10	2	1	4	1	2	1
25	5	13	0	1	6	9	0	1
35	6	5	1	0	10	7	1	0
45	4	3	1	0	3	3	0	1
55	1	2	0	0	2	1	0	1
65 and upwards	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0
Totals	37	50	11	10	34	31	7	8

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Nine cases were notified. All but one were treated at home and recovered, vision being apparently unimpaired.

Tuberculosis.—Twenty of the total of eighty deaths from Tuberculosis had not previously been notified. Of these twenty there were ten pulmonary and ten non-pulmonary (total deaths sixty-five pulmonary and fifteen non-pulmonary).

THE NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Table on page 10 presents an analysis of all the notifications received during 1923 classified according to disease, age and locality, with the number of patients removed to the Isolation Hospital.

In the following Table a comparison is made between the number of notifications in 1923 and in the previous ten years.

Year	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Enteric	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Puerperal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Total
1913	1	206	29	142	28	2		408
1914	0	187	27	283	56	0		553
1915	0	119	16	128	35	2		300
1916	0	52	24	92	35	0	(16)	203
1917	0	23	7	84	7	2	(18)	123
1918	0	20	4	57	18	1	(14)	100
1919	0	44	7	86	28	2	(13)	167
1920	0	63	1	76	10	2	(13)	152
1921	0	78	11	76	14	0	(5)	179
1922	0	177	2	28	14	1	(4)	222
1923	0	202	4	30	12	2	(9)	250
Average for ten years								
1913-1922	0.1	96.9	12.8	105.2	24.5	1.2		240.7

SCARLET FEVER.

Two hundred and two cases were notified during the year, being 205 per cent. of the average number for the past ten years. The disease was of a mild type.

In all cases, contacts of Scarlet Fever cases were excluded from school for a fortnight, during which period they were visited at least twice and as many times thereafter as might be necessary.

The monthly incidence of the disease in Great Yarmouth during 1923 is shown in the following Table.

Month	Total Number	Northern District	Southern District	Gorleston	Southtown and Cobholm	Runham Vauxhall	No of Removals to Hospital
January	19	7	4	—	6	2	13
February	11	7	2	—	2	—	9
March	14	3	1	6	3	1	13
April	16	7	—	5	4	—	14
May	16	4	1	7	4	—	15
June	44	4	11	21	7	1	31
July	19	7	2	2	8	—	20*
August	15	4	2	2	7	—	17*
September	18	5	3	3	7	—	19*
October	13	6	—	2	5	—	11
November	8	6	1	1	—	—	6
December	9	6	2	—	1	—	10*
Totals	202	66	29	49	54	4	178

* Including 9 suspects.

DIPHTHERIA.

Thirty cases of this disease were notified during the year, being 28 per cent. of the average number for the previous ten years.

Most of the cases nursed at home, and all who were removed to the Isolation Hospital were examined bacteriologically to confirm the diagnosis, and in addition before discharge from isolation. No diphtheria patient was discharged from the Isolation Hospital until three successive swabs had shown absence of diphtheria bacilli. In addition to the foregoing, all contacts of school age were bacteriologically examined before being permitted to attend school, and adult contacts before going to work connected with food or clothing or other special circumstances. For further details on this subject see page 17.

The monthly incidence of the disease is shown in the following table.

Month	Total Number	Northern District	Southern District	Gorleston	Southtown and Cobholm	Runham Vauxhall	No. of Removals to Hospital
January	8	3	1	2	2	—	7
February	8	8	—	—	—	—	5
March	3	2	—	1	—	—	3
April	2	—	—	1	1	—	1
April	2	—	—	1	1	—	1
May	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
June	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
July	2	—	2	—	—	—	3*
August	—	—	—	—	—	—	1*
September	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
November	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December	4	2	—	1	1	—	3
Totals	30	16	4	6	4	0	25

* Including 2 carrier cases.

Out of 30 cases notified, 26 were discovered by the bacteriological work carried out at the Municipal Laboratory. But for this institution, therefore, 80 per cent. of the cases would not have been isolated.

THE ENTERIC GROUP OF DISEASES.

Four cases were notified in 1923. Two were local cases of Paratyphoid B. One was a Scotch fisher girl who arrived with the same disease. One was a seaman who came home from a West Coast port with Typhoid, and died.

ERYSIPELAS.

Twelve cases of this disease were notified during the year, being 48.9 per cent. of the ten-yearly average.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Two cases were notified, and one was removed to the General Hospital.

SMALL POX AND POLIOMYELITIS.

There were no cases of Small Pox during the year. Two cases of Poliomyelitis were notified.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Eighty-eight cases were notified during 1923 (77 pulmonary and 11 non-pulmonary).

The former became compulsorily notifiable in 1912, and the latter in 1913. The figures for these and intervening years being as follows:—

		Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
1912	...	206	—
1913	...	170	34
1914	...	119	14
1915	...	69	13

This decline in numbers is due to a large extent to “back-numbers” having been disposed of.

1916	...	74	22
1917	...	83	26
1918	...	47	48*
1919	...	61	7
1920	...	39	4
1921	...	77	4
1922	...	80	6
1923	...	77	11

* This large number was due to the action of a medical man (since left the town), who notified a large number of “tubercular glands of the neck.” As this disease is, in my experience, rare in Great Yarmouth, I very much doubt the accuracy of his diagnosis.

In each case the house was inspected, and dealt with if necessary under the provisions of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909. Disinfectants are provided by the Sanitary Authority in cases where the medical attendants desire them, and disinfection is carried out, when permitted, upon death or change of residence taking place.

PNEUMONIA.

Ten cases were notified. All were visited by the Health Visitors.

MALARIA AND DYSENTRY.

No cases notified during the year.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Corporation shares the expenses of the clinic at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. During 1923 the Yarmouth patients treated there were as follows:—

	Old Cases.	New Cases.
Syphilis ...	98	10
Soft Chancre ...	—	—
Gonorrhœa ...	37	4
Not V.D. ...	—	8
	<hr/> 135 <hr/>	<hr/> 22 <hr/>

They made 268 attendances during the year, and those admitted as in-patients spent a total of 35 days in hospital.

Bacteriological examinations:—

Wasserman test	...	68
Other	... ..	29

Doses of Arseno-benzol compounds: 167.

(All given in Out-patient Department).

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

Scarlet Fever. The increased incidence of this disease was continued from last year and shared by the neighbouring districts. This disease, after a low period lasting about six years, is wont to undergo a high period extending over some years. We are now in one of these high periods.

Whooping Cough. This disease occurs in epidemics every few years; 1923 was not one of these years.

Diphtheria. The number of cases was far below the average.

Tuberculous Disease. The deaths from this disease continue to decline, but slowly.

Cancer. The deaths from cancer continue to increase. The Town Council considered the advisability of distributing pamphlets giving information as to early symptoms, etc., but decided against it.

Respiratory Diseases. Deaths from these diseases show a welcome decrease.

Diarrhœal Diseases. The deaths remain low.

Wasting Diseases of Infants. The deaths continue to decrease.

5. SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home is provided by the two nurses acting under the "Christmas Charity" and one District Nurse under the Guardians.

Midwives. There are six practising in the District. As the medical practitioners attend an unusually high proportion of cases (64.6 per cent.), this number is sufficient.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.—The sessions are held every Thursday Afternoon at the Gourlay School, Dene Side.

Advice is given to mothers on the care of themselves and babies, and dried milk distributed in suitable cases under the advice of the Medical Officer of Health.

The work of the Centre continues to grow rapidly, as it has proved a very popular Institution.

During the year, sixty-one expectant mothers and two hundred and forty-two babies had been dealt with. They paid a total of 3,705 visits.

Dried milk, equivalent to 6,864 gallons of new milk, were distributed. Of this, 5,451 gallons were given free, and contributions equal to the cost price of the remainder were made by the mothers.

Only three babies attending the Centre died, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 11 per 1,000 as against 59 per 1,000 for the town generally.

SCHOOL CLINICS.—Inspection Clinics are provided by the Education Committee at the Education Office, Town Hall, and Gorleston Free Library.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.—Provided by the Corporation at my Office (see page 34).

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.—Provided by the Corporation at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital (see page 15).

Ambulance Facilities. (a) Infectious Disease—Horse Ambulance provided by the Corporation; (b) Other cases—Motor Ambulance provided by the Red Cross and maintained by the Corporation (kept at Police Station and manned by the Police).

6. LABORATORY WORK, ETC.

THE MUNICIPAL LABORATORY.

Eight hundred and forty-one bacteriological examinations were carried out in the Laboratory in 1923, the results being as follows:—

In cases of Diphtheria	In contacts of Diphtheria Patients	In cases for Discharge	For Suspects	Total
Positive 10	Pos. 2	Pos. 20	Pos. 26	
Negative 8	Neg. 41	Neg. 102	Neg. 470	
—	—	—	—	
Total 18	Tot. 43	Tot. 122	Tot. 496	
—	—	—	—	
For T.B.	Specimens of Sputum	Hairs for Ringworm		
Urine Samples 1	T.B. present 24	Positive 6		
Milk Samples 70	T.B. not present 50	Negative 11		
—	—	—		
All Negative 71		74	17	841
—		—	—	—

DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN

is provided free for the use of doctors who require it. It can be obtained at the Town Hall and Isolation Hospital during the day-time and at the two Police Stations during the night.

County Borough of Great Yarmouth.

LIST OF LOCAL ACTS.

1. The Great Yarmouth Paving Act, 1810.
2. Great Yarmouth Corporation Act, 1897.
3. Ditto, 1899.
4. Ditto, 1904.
5. The Great Yarmouth (Burgh Castle Drainage) Act, 1909.
6. The Great Yarmouth Port and Haven Act, 1911.

LIST OF ADOPTED ACTS

- | | Date of Adoption. |
|---|--|
| 7. Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889. | 12th Nov., 1889. |
| 8. Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890. | 14th Oct., 1890. |
| 9. Public Health Acts Amendment Act,
1890, Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5. | 14th Oct., 1890. |
| 10. Private Street Works Act, 1892. | 13th Feb., 1894. |
| 11. Public Health Acts Amendment Act,
1907.
Secs. 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 33,
Part II.
Secs. 34, 35, 36, 45, 50 and 51, Part III.
Secs. 52, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61,
62, 63, 64, 66 and 68, Part IV.
Part V.
Secs. 93 and 95, Part X.
Secs. 80, 84, 85, 86, Part VII. and
Part VIII.
Sec. 92, Part X. | 17th Feb., 1910. |
| 12. Notification of Births Act. | 19th May, 1911.
17th Nov., 1911.
12th April, 1901. |

7. SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector will be found in the Appendix.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION IN DWELLING HOUSES.

There are about 16,000 w.c's., 95* privies and 80 ashpits in the Borough. Most of the houses are provided with portable covered galvanised iron dust bins. The house refuse is collected twice weekly from private houses and daily during the visiting season from hotels and boarding houses. The refuse is destroyed at the Destructor; three steam waggons and ten carts are employed for its removal.

* Eleven for temporary use during the Fishing Season.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND FOOD INSPECTION.

		In 1914.	In Jan., 1923.	In Dec., 1923.
Registered	...	21	16	16
Licensed	...	1	1	1
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		22	17	17
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The usual supervision is exercised by your Chief Sanitary Inspector with respect to food exposed for sale, or in preparation for human consumption in the Borough, which includes frequent inspections to slaughter-houses, butchers' shops, fish and poultry shops, greengrocers' and grocers' shops, market stalls, and other places where foods are sold, etc. It is satisfactory to know that the various tradesmen, and more especially the butchers, in the Borough, have accorded him every facility and readily carried out his instructions and advice with regard to unsound, unwholesome, or diseased food, so that, although there is no public abattoir, nearly every carcase is inspected at the time of or immediately after slaughter.

The number of carcases destroyed for tuberculosis was as follows :—

Cows	...	...	...	2
Bullocks	...	...	...	3
Pigs	...	...	...	1

DISINFECTION.

The following articles were passed through the steam disinfectors at the Hospital:—

Beds	257	Counterpanes	258
Pillows	582	Mattresses	162
Bolsters	222	Clothing	2,947
Slips	792	Carpets	12
Sheets	527	Rugs	21
Hangings	41	Towels	133
Blankets	873	Various	1,014
			<hr/>
Total			7,841
			<hr/>

(The above list does not include a far larger number of articles from the Isolation Hospital itself).

432 rooms were disinfected with formalin vapour.

The cleansing of verminous persons is carried out by the Guardians, who have an up-to-date equipment at the Workhouse infirmary.

MILK TRADE.

	Applications during 1923.	No. on Register Dec. 31st, 1923.
Purveyor ...	20	72
Dairymen ...	4	28
Cowkeeper ...	1	7
Cowsheds ...	0	10

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The following table shows the number of samples obtained and submitted for examination, with results of analysis:—

	Number of Samples submitted to the Analyst.	Result of Analysis	
		Genuine	Adulterated
Milk	101	94	7
Ice Cream	4	4	—
Cream	1	1	—
Preserved Cream	3	3	—
Coffee	3	3	—
Butter	3	3	—
Cocoa	2	2	—
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
	117	110	7
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>

The details of the adulteration found in the samples of milk, with the results of magisterial or other proceedings, are as follows :—

Adulteration.	Proceedings.
1. 31½ per cent. added water.	Fined £5 and £2 5s. 0d. costs.
2. 24½ per cent. added water.	Fined £5 and £2 5s. 0d. costs.
3. 30½ per cent. added water.	Fined £5 and £2 5s. 0d. costs.
4. 39 per cent. devoid of fat.	Case dismissed.
5. 7 per cent. devoid of fat.	Fined 10/- and £1 13s. 6d. costs.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK & CREAM) REGULATIONS,

1912 AND 1917.

MILK. One hundred and one samples were examined; none contained preservatives.

PRESERVED CREAM. Three samples were examined :—

Percentage of Boric Acid found in each sample.	Ditto stated on Statutory Label.
.25 per cent.	0.4 per cent.
.24 per cent.	„
.27 per cent.	„

Each sample contained over 45 per cent. milk fat.

CREAM. One sample examined.

The sample was free from preservative and contained over 59 per cent. milk fat.

UN SOUND FOOD SEIZED AND SURRENDERED, 1923.

Cow	2 carcasses	} Tuberculosis.
Bullock	3 carcasses	
Pig	1 carcass	
Beef (forequarters)	6	
Beef	11 cwts. 3 lbs.	

Bullock	2 carcasses
Beef	2 tons 7 cwts. 2 sts. 8 lbs.
Rabbits	3 (tame)
Ox Kidneys	6
Currants	1 cwt. 3 qrs. 4 lbs.
Potatoes	15 cwts. 3 qrs.
Mushrooms	3 sts. 9 lbs.
Onions	20 cases
Pears	34 crates
Raspberries	2 sts.
Condensed Milk	77 tins

Over 16 tons of fish were seized or surrendered to the Fish Inspector at the Wharf during the year. The fish were destroyed after being formerly surrendered by the owners. The particulars are as follows:—

Description.		Estimated Weight.			
		Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Sts.
Large Whittings	...		2	0	0
Small Whittings	...		10	0	0
Cod	...		0	0	2
Haddocks	...		6	0	0
Skate Docks	...		1	2	0
Dabs	...		3	0	0
Turbot	...		0	0	0½
Herrings	...	15	0	0	0
Mixed Fish (Stocker Bait)			3	3	0
Total	...	16	6	2	0½

OCCUPATIONS, ETC., WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

Offensive Trades, etc.:—

*Fish Manure Works	...	...	1
*Fried Fish Shops	...	...	58

Offensive Trades, etc.—continued:—

Tallow Melter	...	...	...	1
Tripe Dresser	...	...	...	3
Marine Stores	...	...	...	12
Knacker	...	...	...	1

Slaughter Houses	...	} *16 registered. 1 licensed.
------------------	-----	----------------------------------

* Bye-laws.

*Underground Bake Houses:—*None.*Common Lodging Houses:—*4 with accommodation for 9 females and 83 males.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of 24, all the Dwelling Houses in the Borough are supplied from the Company's mains. Samples of the public supply are examined monthly, both chemically and bacteriologically, by the Public Analyst, and quarterly by Mr. Muter for the Town Council, and are of uniform good quality. The water is obtained from the Ormesby Broad and the River Bure, and after sand filtration is pumped into the mains.

There are still twenty-four wells remaining in the Borough. Many of these are without doubt liable to pollution at times, but unless the samples for analysis happens to be taken at one of those times they cannot be dealt with.

OFFICIALS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

(t) A. N. STEVENS—*Medical Officer of Health of the Sanitary Districts of the County Borough and the Port, Medical Superintendent of the Borough Isolation Hospitals, School Medical Officer and Tuberculosis Officer.*

(t) D. WAINWRIGHT—*Assistant Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Inspector.*

(t)†*S. HASSALL—*Chief Sanitary Inspector, Meat Inspector, Chief Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts, &c.*

(t)*A. E. LANG, *J. PILCH—*Assistant Sanitary Inspectors and Inspectors under the Food and Drugs Acts.*

(t)*G. H. SPINKS—*Port Sanitary Inspector, Fish Inspector, Inspector under the Canal Boats and Shops Acts, and Assistant Sanitary Inspector.*

(t)‡*MISS M. H. WINGATE, (t)‡* MISS I. SEARCH—*Health Visitors and School Nurses.*

J. MAXWELL—*Rat Officer.*

E. GARRETT—*Public Health Clerk.*

F. PARMENTER—*Junior ditto.*

G. WESTGATE—*Disinfector.*

* Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

† Food Inspector's ditto.

‡ Certified Midwives and Trained Nurses.

(t) Contribution to salary made by the Treasury.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a)	Total	...	...	...	...	49
(b)	With State assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919 or 1923	...	...	...	...	—

I.—Unfit Dwelling Houses.

INSPECTION.

(1)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	1,098
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	...	...	—
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	1
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	396

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	296
---	-----	-----

III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A. *Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.*

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	118
-----	---	-----	-----	-----	-----

(2)	Number of dwelling houses rendered fit		
	(a) by owners	... ..	178
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	... ..	—
(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	... ..	—

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	278
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied—		
	(a) by owners	... ..	117
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	... ..	—

C. *Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the
Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.*

(1)	Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders		—
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	—
(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	... ..	—
(4)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made		—
(5)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ..	—

APPENDIX.

WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS.

These two ladies work under the Health and Education Committees. During the afternoons on five days a week their time is fully occupied as a rule with assisting in the routine inspection of the children on school premises. During the mornings and on school holidays, and on occasional afternoons when one of them can be spared from the schools, their work consists of home-visiting. For this purpose they attend every morning at the Town Hall, to report on the previous day's work and to receive instructions for the day.

The total number of visits during the year was 4,923, as follows:—

In connection with the visitation of infants:—

At homes of legitimate infants	...	3,606	
At homes of illegitimate infants	...	172	
At homes where infant's death or still-			
births had occurred	...	61	
		—	3,839
In connection with visitation of blind	...	44	
In connection with midwives	...	67	
In connection with cases of pneumonia		8	
		—	119
In connection with the medical inspection			
of school children:—			
To arrange with teachers at the school			
re inspection	...	73	
To ascertain if medical advice had			
been carried out	...	429	
To mental defectives	...	165	

To investigate special cases, poliomye- litis, tubercle, scarlet fever, etc.	126	
To attend inspection at schools ...	122	
Mornings spent in preparing for inspections ...	50	
	<hr/>	965
		<hr/>
		4,923
		<hr/>

The total number of infants visited was 2,143, as follows:—

	Living.	Dead.	Stillborn.	Total.
Legitimate	2,018	48 (15)	8 (16)	2,074
Illegitimate	64	5 (1)	—	69
				<hr/>
				2,143
				<hr/>

Thirty-two deaths and still-births were not visited. They are bracketed and deducted from the total.

Sanitary Defects were reported and remedied in four cases.

The nine cases of Ophthalmia notified were kept under observation until well.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

This Act provides that, in addition to registration, notification has to be sent in to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of birth. It is still found that a proportion of births are not notified owing to ignorance or misunderstanding of the Act, but very rarely it happens, if at all, that the requirements have been wilfully evaded. During the year 73 per cent. of the total live-births were thus notified, in addition to 24 still-births.

Twenty-one of the illegitimate births were not notified. With five exceptions, in four of which an uncertificated woman attended, all the births attended by midwives were notified. (Of cases attended by Doctors, about 30 per cent. were not notified).

During the year the Health Visitors paid 3,839 visits to the homes of 2,143 infants (of whom 2,082 were living). Advice was given on the feeding and management of the baby, general hygiene of the home and general hygiene of the mother. The Visitors also had leaflets on Infant Feeding, to distribute at their discretion, but were instructed not to rely on them, for a great deal more good is done by verbal instructions and practical demonstration rather than by leaflets, which are often not read, or, if read, misunderstood. The result of the enquiries into methods of infant feeding is as follows:—

Number of births enquired into:—

Legitimate	...	...	1,052	
Illegitimate	...	...	58	
			—	1,110

Number of infants re-visited from previous year:—

Legitimate	...	...	526	
Illegitimate	...	...	6	
			—	532
				<hr/> 1,642 <hr/>

These children were found to be fed as follows:—

	Total Visited.	Breast Only.	Partly Breast	No Breast at all.
1st month of life ...	1,110	83%	1%	16%
4th month ...	1,017	72%	2%	26%
8th month ...	1,019	67%	still on breast or part breast, the majority on breast alone.	

The children (253 in number) who were found to be receiving some artificial feeding before the age of eight months, were fed as follows:—

		Legitimate.	Illegitimate.
Cow's milk	...	33	3
Condensed milk, mainly	...	67	13
Patent foods and mixed diet	...	10	2
Dried milk	...	113	11
		<hr/> 223 <hr/>	<hr/> 30 <hr/>

Not one tube bottle was found in use.

Bread or biscuit pap was given from an early age in one case only, though this practice appears to have been almost universal amongst the poorer classes of Great Yarmouth a few years ago. Such cases are included under the third heading of the Table given above.

In sixty-nine cases enquiries were made after the death of the infants. Thirteen of these children died of diarrhœa. They were fed as follows, omitting one over 12 months old.

Legitimate.

Illegitimate.

	Under 1 mth.	1-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	Under 1 mth.	1-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.
Breast only ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Breast partly ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cow's milk, mainly	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Condensed Milk, mainly	1	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Patent foods and mixed diets ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
No information obtainable ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5	3	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—

Five hundred and one children were visited at a somewhat later age, most of them being between 2 and 4 years old. In the younger ones dentition was, as a rule, well advanced, only three being noted as backward in this respect. Thirty-one children had their teeth beginning to decay and twelve others had bad teeth at a fairly early age. In four cases decay had set in before the first dentition was complete. Nine were found to be suffering from rickets and four others from some other condition requiring medical treatment, which the parents were advised to obtain if they had not already done so. Two children had diarrhœa, one of whom is noted among the deaths; the other recovered. The larger number of these little ones had a certain quantity of fresh milk in their diet, but 25 were having tinned milk only, and about a dozen were getting no milk at all.

The remaining fifty-six infants, whose deaths formed the subject of enquiry, were found to have been fed as follows:—

Legitimate.

Illegitimate.

	Under 1 mth.	1-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	Under 1 mth.	1-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.
Breast only ...	4	3	4	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
Breast partly ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cow's milk mainly	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
Condensed milk mainly ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dried milk ...	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Patent foods and mixed diets ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Breast at 1st vis., no further infor- mation ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No information obtainable ...	21	5	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
	27	12	4	6	2	2	1	—	2	—

The general standard of cleanliness and order in the homes visited was very satisfactory, as shown in the following percentages:—

STANDARD.

Total Homes Visited,	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Bad.
1,642	68.6%	26.2%	4.2%	1.0%

Taking the homes of living and dead children separately, the figures tell their own tale:—

	Homes Visited.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Bad.
Living	1,576	70.0%	25.3%	3.9%	0.8%
Dead	66	33.3%	51.0%	11.7%	4.0%

About 20 per cent. of the mothers of illegitimate children went out to work, and 51 per cent. of these children were artificially fed.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1902.

There was no evidence of a shortage of midwives during the year, owing greatly to the fact that in this town it is customary for medical men to be engaged for the majority of confinements.

The figures for this year are:—

Attended by Medical Men	...	64.6
„ Registered Midwife	...	34.9
„ Unregistered Midwife	...	0.5

There were four untrained certified midwives practising during the year, and 3 trained midwives.

The work of the midwives is automatically supervised by the infant visiting of the Health Visitors, both of whom are registered midwives. In addition, the Medical Officer of Health from time to time inspects their books and appliances.

Number of births attended by Midwives	...	375
„ „ „ in the Infirmary	...	10
„ „ „ in General Hospital	...	1
„ „ „ by “ Handy Women ”		6

Midwives sent for medical assistance in thirty cases, as follows:—

Illness of mother	...	...	4
Illness of child	...	...	6
Obstruction	...	...	1
Difficult Labour	...	...	6
Hæmorrhage	...	...	1
White Leg	...	...	1
Malposition	...	...	2
Protrusion of Cord	...	...	1
Eclampsia	...	...	1
Ruptured Perineum	...	...	2
Complicated breech	...	...	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	4

THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Gorleston Isolation Hospital is reserved for the isolation of cases of Small Pox.

The Estcourt Road Hospital afforded accommodation to 83 per cent. of the total number of cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and "Typhoid Fever," which were notified during the year.

ADMISSIONS, DEATHS, AND DISCHARGES AT THE ESTCOURT ROAD AND GORLESTON HOSPITALS.

	Small Pox.	Pneu- monia:	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Group.	Diph- theria.	Other Diseases.	Totals.
Remaining on							
December 31, 1922	0	0	28	0	2	1	31
Admitted during 1923	0	0	178*	2	25*	0	205
Died in Hospital	0	0	1	1	2	0	4
Discharged during 1923	0	0	191	0	22	1	214
Remaining on							
December 31, 1923	0	0	14	1	3	0	18

*Includes 9 Scarlet Fever suspects, not notified, and
2 Diphtheria carriers.

ADMISSIONS INTO THE ESTCOURT ROAD AND GORLESTON HOSPITALS IN EACH MONTH OF 1923.

	Other Disease	Pneumonia.	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Group.	Diphtheria.	Totals.
January	0	0	0	13	0	7	20
February	0	0	0	9	0	5	14
March	0	0	0	13	0	3	16
April	0	0	0	14	0	1	15
May	0	0	0	15	0	1	16
June	0	0	0	31	0	0	31
July	0	0	0	20	0	3	23
August	0	0	0	17	0	1	18
September	0	0	0	19	2	0	21
October	0	0	0	11	0	1	12
November	0	0	0	6	0	0	6
December	0	0	0	10	0	3	13
	0	0	0	178	2	25	205

The average number of patients in hospital was 25.5, about the pre-war average.

The average period of detention in hospital for each case completed during the year was:—

For Scarlet Fever	...	46.4 days
„ Diphtheria	...	33.7 „

The number of patients removed to hospital in proportion to the number of notified cases was:—

For Scarlet Fever	...	83.6 per cent.
„ Diphtheria	...	76.6 „
„ “ Typhoid Fever ”	...	50 „

TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME.

The Medical Officer of Health acts as Tuberculosis Officer with his office at the Town Hall as the “ Dispensary,” and arrangements are made for the reservation of beds at Sanatoria, as follows:—

Kelling Sanatorium:—

Civil beds (males)	...	7
Ex-Service men's beds	...	as required.

Stanninghall Farm Colony (for Ex-Service men who have passed through sanatorium treatment):—Beds as required.

N.B.—This institution is maintained by the Norfolk, Norwich and Great Yarmouth Authorities.

Norfolk and Norwich Hospital (for surgical tuberculosis cases):—Beds as required.

Normanston Hospital (for ex-Service advanced cases):—Ditto.

Bramblewood Sanatorium (females):—5 beds.

Ipswich Sanatorium (females):—As required.

The number of admittances during 1923 were as follows:—

Kelling (civilian)	...	...	13
Kelling (ex-Service)	...	...	7
Stanninghall	...	...	3
Bramblewood	...	...	11
Ipswich	...	...	3
Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (ex-Service)			1
Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (civilian)			4
Normanston	...	...	3
Vocational Cases (Ministry of Pensions Training Scheme)	...		0

The average number of patients undergoing Institutional Treatment was 22.3.

The average duration of completed cases was as follows:—

Kelling (civilian)	...	181 days
Kelling (ex-Service)	...	238 „
Stanninghall	... ..	561 „
Bramblewood	... ..	120 „
Ipswich	... ..	130 „
Normanston	... ..	91 „
Norfolk and Norwich Hospital (ex-Service)	... ..	15 „
Norfolk and Norwich Hospital (civilian)	... ..	3 „

The number of patients in residence on December 31st were:—Kelling (civilian) 7, (ex-Service) 3; Stanninghall 4; Bramblewood 4; Ipswich 2; Normanston 2; total, 22.

As Tuberculosis Officer I made 227 examinations of patients between January 1st and December 31st, 1923, at 317 interviews.

THE WORK OF THE RAT OFFICER.

This officer's position is often misunderstood. He is not a rat-catcher. Just as a Sanitary Inspector enforces certain provisions of various enactments relating to Public Health, so the Rat Officer enforces the provisions of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act. His duty is to compel occupiers of premises to take the necessary steps to destroy rats or mice that are harbouring there. Even when, as is often the case, the occupier is willing to act, and in fact reports the matter to the Rat Officer, that officer still has the difficult task of compelling the occupiers of neighbouring premises to act at the same time and to co-ordinate their efforts. It is obvious that merely sporadic attempts on isolated premises would be valueless.

The Corporation have recently appointed an official Rat-catcher to work under the Rat Officer. It is too soon yet to say what effect this appointment will have upon the situation, but he appears to be giving satisfaction to the occupiers of premises where he has operated.

During the year the Rat Officer made 5,172 visits, as follows :—

Slaughter-houses	...	...	100
Marine Stores	...	...	132
Fish Houses	...	...	1,177
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	88
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	47
Bake Houses	...	...	174
Malt Houses	...	..	42
Stables	...	...	163
Piggeries	...	...	94
Timber Yards	...	...	52
Private Houses	...	...	189
Groceries and Provision Stores	...	...	142
Re-visits	...	...	1,071
Special and complaints	...	...	1,546
Ships	...	...	10
Notices served under the Act	...	...	117
Fish Manure Works	...	...	28
			<hr/>
			5,172
			<hr/>

It has been customary for many years for the Corporation to pay one penny per dead rat brought to my office. During the year, 2,712 rats were brought in this way.

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

SIR,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Twenty-seventh Annual Report of the work carried out in the above department during the year 1923. Particulars as to the nature and number of nuisances reported to the Health Committee, and dealt with by statutory notices, also works of a similar nature, but dealt with by preliminary notices.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

SAMUEL HASSALL.

TABLE A.

	Number of Visits.
Complaints received and attended to ...	601
Visits in connection with infectious diseases ...	592
Re-inspections to ascertain the progress of Sanitary notices ...	3,874
Bake house inspections ...	161
Common lodging-house inspections (day-time) ...	238
Common lodging-house inspections (night-time) ...	84
Slaughter-houses and knackers' yard inspections ...	420
Offensive trades and marine store inspections ...	236
Factories, workshops and work-places inspected ...	1,704
Dairies, cowsheds and milk shops inspected ...	521
Visits to ice cream vendors ...	100
Butchers', provisions and fruiterers' shops ...	148
Samples of water submitted for analysis ...	5
Samples of food, etc., submitted for analysis ...	117
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease ...	432
Special visits to fish shops ...	84
Houses, schools and workshops at which the smoke, water or chemical tests have been applied to the drains ...	121

TABLE A.—*continued.*

	Number of Visits.
Prosecutions under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act	3
Visits <i>re</i> Shops Acts	284
Stables inspected	103
Public conveniences inspected	72
Fair vans inspected	52
School sanitary arrangements inspected	58

TABLE B.

During the year the following works have been carried out under Statutory and Preliminary Notices, the number of notices served being 67 Statutory and 296 Preliminary.

	Number.
Privies replaced with water closets	4
New drains laid	29
Drains cleaned and repaired	387
Pedestal closets provided	14
Earthenware gully-traps fixed	241
Flushing cisterns fixed to closets	10
Filthy houses cleansed and limewashed	34
Offensive accumulations removed	2
Nuisances from overcrowding abated	8
Animals and poultry removed	111
Water closets repaired	294
New sinks erected	23
Drains intercepted from sewers	44
Rainwater cisterns abolished	16
Sink waste pipes disconnected	24
Yards, passages and floors concreted	241
Drains ventilated	204
Spouting and fall pipes provided	546
Cowsheds and slaughter-houses limewashed	18
Bakehouses limewashed	64
Houses provided with Company's water	3
Damp courses inserted	196
Houses ventilated	118
Nuisances from premises being used as a fried fish shop abated	9
Rainwater pipes disconnected from drains	152
Dilapidations made good	1,896

TABLE B.—*continued.*

Number.

Under floor spaces ventilated	...	...	209
Manure bin provided	...	...	2
Miscellaneous items	...	...	1,742

DRAIN TESTING.

During the year, 601 complaints have been received from householders and others, respecting the conditions of the drains and sanitary fittings of houses and other premises; an examination of the sanitary arrangements was made in every instance, and, if necessary, the smoke test was applied to the drains. This resulted in the detection of 47 defective drains, also many other nuisances. The necessary notices were served in the usual course, and in every instance the terms of the notices were complied with. The drains were also tested at all houses where cases of Typhoid Fever, Puerperal Fever or Diphtheria had occurred.

The total number of drain tests made during the year was 121, and the number of defects found was 65. Particulars as to the nature of these defects are given in the following table:—

TABLE C.

Showing the localities of sewer gas escapes discovered by drain testing:—

				Number.
Into Breakfast rooms	...	...	...	10
„ Kitchens and Sculleries	...	...	...	12
„ Bedrooms	...	...	...	4
„ Lobbies and other parts of houses	...	...	...	4
„ Internal w.c's.	...	...	...	4
„ External w.c's.	...	...	...	28
„ Yards and passages	...	...	...	9
„ adjoining houses	...	...	...	2
„ Cellars	...	...	...	2
From defective soil pipes	...	...	...	10
„ defective vent shafts	...	...	...	7
„ heads and joints of rain-water pipes	...	...	...	6
„ around yard gullies	...	...	...	3
„ defective drain connections	...	...	...	59

TABLE C.—*continued.*

			Number.
From defective w.c. connections	..	...	22
,, defective interceptors	...	...	8
,, sink wastes, rain-water pipes, etc., connected			
direct	...	...	8
,, drains, direct to sewer	...	...	6

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS INSPECTION.

Premises	Inspection.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories	74	—	—
Workshops (including workshop, laundries and fish-curers) ...	784	19	—
Work places (including fish-yards)	814	16	—
Home-worker' premises ...	32	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals ...	1,704	35	Nil
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

DEFECTS FOUND.

		Number of Defects Found.	Remedied.	Number of Prosecutions.
Want of cleanliness	... ..	5	5	—
Want of ventilation	... ..	2	2	—
Want of drainage of floors	... ..	3	3	—
Defective drains	... ..	6	6	—
Offensive accumulation on premises		38	38	—
No water supply	... ..	1	1	—
Sanitary Accommodation	Insufficient	5	5	—
	Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—
	Not separate			
	for sexes	2	2	—
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals ...		63	63	Nil
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

HOME WORK.

	Number.
List of out-workers received twice in the year	8
Total number of out-workers on lists	39

NATURE AND NUMBER OF REGISTERED AND
UNREGISTERED FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES
VISITED DURING THE YEAR.

(Excluding Out-workers' premises).

Nature.				Number of Visits.
Shoemakers	...	...	...	26
Tinsmiths	...	...	...	7
Dressmakers	...	...	...	11
Net chambers	...	...	...	61
Barrel factories	...	...	...	9
Box makers	...	..	...	19
Bakehouses and confectioners			...	434
Tailors	...	...	...	65
Sugar boilers	...	...	...	39
Laundry	...	...	...	6
Upholsterers	...	...	...	9
Plumbers and painters		...	...	68
Ice cream manufacturers		...	...	149
Carpenters	...	...	...	31
Engineers	...	...	...	16
Stonemasons	...	...	...	4
Fish-houses and yards		...	...	627
Mineral water works		...	...	10
Wheelwright	...	...	...	2
Blacksmith	...	...	...	6
Coach builder	...	...	...	5
Clothing factory	...	...	...	2
Foundry	...	...	..	4
Millwright	...	...	...	2
Bottling store	...	...	...	8
Printer	...	...	...	15
Wood turner	...	...	...	2
Silversmith	...	...	...	2
Marine stores	...	...	...	181
Hair dressers	...	...	...	29
Harness maker	...	...	...	17
Cork cutter	...	...	...	1
Coopers	...	...	...	18
Motor and cycle engineers		...	...	22
Milliners	...	...	...	18
Sail maker	...	...	...	2

Nature.			Number of Visits.
Sack maker	...	...	1
Boat builder	...	...	3
Pickle factory	...	...	6
Bedding manufacturer	...	...	3
Manufacturer of leather goods	...	...	4
Twine spinner	...	...	2
Tripe dresser	...	...	19
Locksmiths	...	...	2
Scale maker	...	...	4
Whitesmiths	...	...	2
Basket makers	...	...	11
Dentists' workshops	...	...	21
Mast and block maker	...	...	9
Builders	...	...	52
Picture framers	...	...	9
Cabinet makers	...	...	12
Furrier	...	...	2
Firelighter works	...	...	2
Total ...			2,092

NUMBER OF WORKSHOPS, ETC., ON THE REGISTER AT THE END OF THE
YEAR 1923.

Nature.			Number.
Bakehouses	...	...	81
Baking powder makers	...	...	3
Bedding manufacturers	...	...	3
Boat builders	...	...	5
Bottling store	...	...	5
Blacksmiths	...	...	18
Box makers	...	...	1
Builders	...	...	5
Basket makers	...	...	12
Bone boilers	...	...	0
Carpenters and joiners	...	...	34
Confectioners	...	...	22
Coopers	...	...	10
Engineers	...	...	7
Ice Manufactory	...	...	1
Motor engineers	...	...	5
Wood-choppers	...	...	2
Printing works	...	...	3

Nature.			Number.
Carriage builders	...	...	5
Cabinet makers	...	...	10
Gas fitters	...	...	4
Blind makers	...	...	2
Jam and preserve boiler	...	...	1
Furriers	...	...	2
Marine fitters	...	...	6
Cycle engineers	...	...	17
Stonemasons	...	...	4
Mast and block makers	...	...	3
Gut scrapers	...	...	2
Cork cutters	...	...	2
Dressmakers	...	...	64
Fish curers, etc.	...	...	231
Foundries	...	...	2
Hairdressers	...	...	38
Lock and tinsmiths	...	...	12
Laundries	...	...	5
Milliners	...	...	24
Marine stores	...	...	12
Netting chambers	...	...	44
Outfitters	...	...	6
Oilskin manufacturers	...	...	4
Picture framers	...	...	3
Plumbers and painters	...	...	17
Ropemakers	...	...	2
Scalemakers	...	...	1
Sailmakers	...	...	4
Tailors	...	...	43
Tripe dressers	...	...	3
Whitesmiths	...	...	2
Wood turners	...	...	1
Wheelwrights	...	...	7
Shoemakers	...	...	89
Upholsterers	...	...	8
Ice cream manufacturers	...	...	88
Hide, skin and fat merchants	...	...	1
Saddlers	...	...	4
Millwrights	...	...	1
Hosiers	...	...	3
Weavers	...	...	1
Dentists	...	...	10

Nature.				Number.
Firelight makers	...	...	...	2
Shipsmiths	...	...	...	4
				<hr/>
Total ...				1,009
				<hr/>

PORT SANITARY DISTRICT.

The arrangements for inspecting vessels from infected ports, whilst still in the Roads, were continued as in previous years (*i.e.*, notification by Pilots, Boatmen and Customs, all of whom are kept supplied with lists of such ports, and very conscientiously carry out the arrangement), but owing to the great reduction in the Baltic trade, no vessels arrived from an infected port.

The Corporation has come to an agreement with the Guardians to disinfect seamen affected with vermin at the Infirmary cleansing station. Disinfection of their quarters and effects will be undertaken by the Council. There has been no occasion so far to put this into effect.

There were no ships from plague-infected ports—in fact, we have no trade with any place in which plague is liable to occur. Some years ago a number of rats (black and brown) from the Port were examined for plague infection, without result. As the Corporation employs no rat-catchers for this purpose, statistics of rat destruction on ships are not available, but no unduly infested ship was found. Ten were visited by the Rat Officer.

SICKNESS IN THE PORT.—One of the crew of the steam trawler “Valentia” removed to Hospital suffering from diphtheria. Vessel disinfected and crew examined. No further case.

THE REPORT OF THE PORT SANITARY INSPECTOR.

The Surveyor of Customs and Excise kindly supplies the following information as to the traffic of the Port:—

Return of the number and tonnage of vessels which arrived at the Port of Yarmouth during the year 1923 (excluding Fishing Vessels):—

FROM FOREIGN PORTS.						COASTWISE.						NUMBER OF SEAMEN.*		
Sailing			Steam.		Motor.		Sailing.		Steam.		Motor.		British.	Foreign.
No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	No.
103	9409		325	80399	83	13601	179	16010	491	76523	33	3324	8010	3564

* Estimate only.

Inspections made
in 1923.

The number of vessels inspected on
entering the Port was as follows:—

	Arrivals.		Number Inspected.		Number reported defective.	Number of orders issued.
	Number.	Tonnage.	By the M.O.H.	By the Inspector		
FOREIGN—						
Steamers and Motors ...	325	94000	32	295	54	39
Sailing ...	103	9409	9	45	18	8
Fishing ...	included	above.	1	39	26	20
Total Foreign ..	428	103409	42	378	98	67
COASTWISE ...						
Steamers and Motors ...	524	79347	17	217	38	26
Sailing ...	179	16010	2	72	9	4
Fishing ...	About 1000	40000	29	337	198	169
Total Coastwise...	1703	135837	48	626	245	199
Total Foreign and Coastwise	2131	239246	90	1004	343	266

These vessels were of the following nationalities:—

British	...	...	...	719
Norwegian	...	...	...	24
Swedish	...	...	...	29
Dutch	...	...	...	47
Danzig	...	...	...	5
Danish	...	...	...	6
French	...	...	...	9
Belgian	...	...	...	20
Polish	...	...	...	3
Greek	...	...	...	1
German	...	...	...	129
Finnish	...	...	...	8
Esthonian	...	...	...	4
Russian	...	...	...	—

Total ... 1,004

The foreign trade of the Port was chiefly with Germany, Sweden, Holland and Norway.

The Imports were—Foreign ... Timber and Salt.
 „ „ „ „ Coastwise ... Stone, Grain and General.
 The Exports were ... Fish.

The following list shows the nature of the defects reported in previous table:—

Dirty forecastles or deck houses	...	35
Forecastles to repaint or limewash	...	14
Defects in sanitary arrangements	...	4
Foul meat casks	... ..	1
Defects in ventilation	... ..	61
Filthy galley	... ..	22
Offensive accumulations	... ..	43
Filthy bedding, clothing, etc.	... ..	6
Unsuitable sleeping accommodation	...	4
Vessels disinfected	... ..	59
Defective water tanks	... ..	4
Filthy w.c's.	... ..	96
Unwholesome provision store	... ..	3
Suspicious drinking water	... ..	4
Ship's stores in forecastle	... ..	6
Repairs to ventilators	... ..	3
Cautions <i>re</i> bilge pumping	... ..	139

These defects necessitated re-inspection in most cases.

BILGE PUMPING ON FISHING VESSELS.—Bills were posted and handbills were distributed on board the fishing craft coming South for the Autumn fishing, drawing attention to the above offence, and many masters and engineers of vessels were cautioned personally by the Inspector.

MR. SPINKS submits his Annual Report on the work done by him as Inspector under the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, and Shops Acts, 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1920, for the Great Yarmouth Urban Sanitary Authority during the year 1923:—

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

During the year 59 boats were inspected, and these, without exception, were found to be very clean and well kept, and in no case were there females or children permanently residing on board.

On one boat the registration markings were not shown. On another vessel there was an insufficient provision for storage of fresh water, whilst two cabins required re-painting to render them waterproof. Upon my acquainting the owners of the craft of these matters, the registration plates were duly provided and affixed; also a water bottle was provided and the necessary works executed. These were the only defects discovered by me during this year, the boats in this district being still excellently maintained.

There has again been no case of sickness on board a Canal boat during the year.

REGISTRATION MATTERS.

Fifty-eight boats have been registered by this Authority, but I have ascertained that only about thirty of these boats are now in use as Canal Boats.

On two boats inspected, the Master had not a copy of the Certificates on board.

There were no fresh registrations during the year, most of the boats in this district now registering under the Merchant Shipping Act.

SHOPS ACTS, 1912 and 1914.

During the year 284 inspections of shops and stores were made by me under the above Acts, and many irregularities, *i.e.*, failing to affix necessary notices, etc., were attended to on my intervention, no prosecutions being instituted.

SHOPS ACT, 1913.

In the course of my inspections I have not been able to ascertain that any shop-keeper has availed himself of the special provisions of the Shops Act, 1913. Although several shop-keepers enquired as to the details of this Act, it is apparently unsuitable to local requirements.

EXEMPTIONS.

The "Holiday Resort" exemption (under section 11 of the Act) was again granted to the whole Borough, to operate during the months of June, July, August and September, and the exceptions granted to specified trades (on their application) under section 4, sub-section 4, of the Act, in order to cope with the extra business of the Autumn fishing seasons, remain in operation.

INDEX.

			Page.
Acts, Local and Adopted	...	...	18
Ambulance	...	...	17
Antitoxin, Diphtheria	...	...	17
Birth Rate	...	...	4, 5
Births, notification of	...	...	28
Canal Boats	...	...	47, 48
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	23
Cream	...	...	20, 21
Deaths, ages at	...	...	6
,, causes of	...	...	6, 7, 8, 9
,, Rate	...	...	4, 5, 6
,, Rate (Infants)	...	...	4, 6, 17
Diphtheria	...	...	10, 12, 13
Drain Testing	...	...	39, 40
Disinfection	...	...	20
Enteric Fever	...	...	10, 12, 14
Factories and Workshops	...	...	40, 41, 42, 43, 44
Fish Inspection	...	...	22
Food and Drugs Acts	...	...	20, 21
Food Inspection	...	...	19, 20, 21, 22, 23
Health, Visitors	...	...	27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32
Housing	...	...	25, 26
Infant Mortality	...	...	4, 6, 8, 9, 17
Isolation Hospital	...	...	33, 34
Laboratory Work	...	...	17
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre	...	...	16, 17
Meteorological Figures	...	...	4
Midwives	...	...	16, 32
Milk	...	...	21

INDEX—*continued.*

			Page.
Milk Trade	...	...	20, 21
Notification of Births	...	...	28
Notifiable Diseases	...	...	10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Nursing	...	...	16
Offensive Trades	...	...	22, 23
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	10, 11
Population	...	...	4, 5
Port Sanitary District	...	...	44, 45, 46, 47
Rat Officer's Report	...	...	36
Sanitary Accommodation in Dwelling Houses			19
Sanitary Inspector's Report	...	...	37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44
Scarlet Fever	...	...	10, 12, 15
School Clinic	...	...	17
School Closure	...	...	4
Shops Acts	...	...	48
Sickness, causes of	...	...	15, 16
Slaughter Houses	...	...	19
Tuberculosis	...	...	10, 14, 15, 17
Tuberculosis Scheme	...	...	34, 35
Venereal Diseases Scheme	...	...	15, 17
Vital Statistics	...	...	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Water Supply	...	...	23
Whooping Cough	...	...	9, 15

